

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 5 and 14, without prejudice, amend claim 1, and add new claim 15 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a pneumatic tire having an innerliner formed of thermoplastic elastomer, comprising the steps of:

heating a surface of a tire building drum in advance;

placing the innerliner on the heated surface of the tire building drum, the innerliner having a thickness of 80 μ m to 300 μ m and being cylindrically shaped and having a radially outer surface to which an adhesive has been applied;

disposing uncured tire components radially outwardly of the innerliner to form a green tire; and

curing the green tire,

wherein the adhesive has a glass transition temperature ranged from -20°C to 30°C,

wherein the surface of the tire building drum is heated at a ~~maximum~~ temperature of 40°C to 60°C in the step of heating the tire building drum,

wherein the heating is carried out at least until the uncured tire components are applied to and radially outward of the innerliner, and

wherein by placing the adhesive in a ~~high~~higher tackiness condition through the heating, than the tackiness condition prior to heating, the uncured tire components are attached to the innerliner.

2. (Original) A method of manufacturing a pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the step of disposing uncured tire components includes disposing an uncured carcass ply, bead cores and uncured side rubber layers radially outwardly of the innerliner to form a carcass assembly and inflating the carcass assembly in a toroidal shape to press against a radially inner side of a cylindrical belt and tread package having an uncured belt ply and an uncured tread rubber layer.

3-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein, after the carcass assembly is formed, the tire building drum is contracted to remove the carcass assembly from the tire building drum and, after the heated adhesive layer is naturally cooled, the carcass assembly is inflated into a toroidal shape and pressed against the radially inner side of a cylindrical belt and tread package, comprising uncured belt plies and an uncured tread rubber layer.

13. (Previously Presented) A method of manufacturing a pneumatic tire according to claim 2, wherein, after the carcass assembly is formed, the tire building drum is contracted to remove the carcass assembly from the tire building drum and, after the heated adhesive layer is forcibly cooled, the carcass assembly is inflated into a toroidal shape and pressed against the radially inner side of a cylindrical belt and tread package, comprising uncured belt plies and an uncured tread rubber layer.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) A method of manufacturing a pneumatic tire according to claim 1, wherein the adhesive is high in cohesion and is low in tackiness at a room temperature, and when the surface of the tire building drum is heated at a temperature of 40°C to 60°C the adhesive exhibits a sufficient tackiness.